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## CONSECRATION OF CATHEDRAL OF SACRED HEART



View at consecration service, showing Bishop Kelley, one of consecrators.

View at consecration service, showing procession in street.

HISTORIC  
EVENT IN  
DIOCESEScenes Most Notable  
In Annals of Church  
In the State.PRELATES FILL  
THE SANCTUARYSplendid Sermons Delivered  
By High Churchmen  
Present.

Breathing the spirit of peace and holiness, modestly rising to its proud position among the first temples of the land, the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, the gift of one man to a great church, stands today consecrated to the service of God.

With all the solemn pomp and ceremony of the ancient faith, in the presence of thousands of every creed and condition, and beneath the full beauty of a perfect autumnal sky, the massive doors were thrown wide yesterday, admitting to the sanctuary the most notable gathering of high dignitaries ever assembled upon Southern soil. Priests of the church were there in the persons of the American cardinal and the representative of the Holy See, archbishops, bishops, monsignors, prelates of great degree and rank, through separate aisle and ambulatory. High officials of the State government and the municipality filled the pews, with hundreds of others representing all walks of life—the humble and the exalted, dignity of rank, pride of position, and the splendor of wealth lost their complete significance in the grandeur and solemnity of the sacred rites, and sectarian barriers fell away, while the worshiper, with lowered head, knelt devoutly before the shrine.

Wonderful Scene.

The picture in a word of a shrine the events of a historic day, or to transfer to a printed page the regal splendor of the service were an impossible task. Standing forth great and gray in the early morning light, the cathedral, with its towering spire, loomed majestically and grandly in the distance. Along the sidewalks stood hundreds of people, some on foot, some on horseback, and some in carriages. But for the occasional rattle of a wheel or the clang of a street car, it passed along, the city was complete. Proceeded by acolytes and priests, and where bearing lanterns, the papal delegate, robed in the full insignia of his high office, appeared in the street, and the myriad ritual of consecration began. Several bishops arrived, the purple of their capes adding a touch of color to the black and white of the scene. While walls and altars were blessed, more than three hours passed, and still the throng on the outside, increased. The guard of honor surrounded the church so that none might enter. The sun rose high and strong, and with it came more people. The consecration was over and the pontifical mass about to begin. From every direction the congregation was assembling, and for three-quarters of an hour carriages rolled up and men and women streamed into the church. The doors were closed momentarily and then opened to admit the prelates. Within a few minutes the sanctuary was filled, the rich colors of the pontifical vestments appearing sharp and distinct against the gray of the walls and the gleaming white of the marble altars. Two more hours passed and the most imposing service ever seen in Virginia had been concluded and the cathedral was emptied again to remain so until midnight. Vespers gathered the entire throng once more and in part the gorgeous picture was redrawn with the brilliance of a myriad lights and flashing candles added. The youngest archbishop in the world presided at a sermon of rare eloquence and force. The delegate pronounced the papal benediction. The last prayers were said and the last hymns of praise chanted. The day was at an end.

What Day Signified.

To every Catholic within the bounds of Virginia the occasion was indeed one for thanksgiving. The cathedral, the seat of the bishop, whence in all spiritual matters

## CARDINAL GIBBONS.

he rules his flock, stands to the diocese as the church to the parish—the great fountain-head and source of authority and aid, the church pre-eminent among all others, wherein the entire people lavish their choicest gifts. In every Catholic home in the State the consecration was an event of the greatest moment, and while thousands could not, for various reasons, attend, and still fewer could gain entrance, the thoughts of all were turned toward the capital city. Four years of hope were seeing their fruition there, through the manifestation of one family. From time beyond the memory of most men, old St. Peter's had been the episcopal seat, and though once the most notable church edifice in Richmond, it was not in keeping with the present importance and dignity of the diocese.

To see arise in its place a magnificent temple that might in some more adequate measure express the Catholic's idea of what constitutes a fit abiding place for Almighty God, had been a great and cherished hope for a quarter of a century. But for many years the corner-stone brought from the Garden of Gethsemane by one of the earlier bishops, was all that had been accomplished toward this longed-for end. The sudden realization of this apparently still far-distant possession, and in a form that cannot but exert a tremendous influence upon the upbuilding of the church in this diocese, was an event of signal importance. This was the real meaning of the consecration to the 30,000 Catholics of Virginia, apart from the mere presence of the illustrious and venerated churchmen.

What the devout Catholic felt was appreciated in a smaller degree by many of different creeds. The opening of a great temple of worship evoked the sympathies of all Christian peoples, and the completion of a monumental structure that places Richmond among the cathedral cities of the world, was a source of pride and satisfaction to all.

Combining these elements of interest and attraction, the event was notable in the history of Richmond and the services were attended with the interest of the entire community.

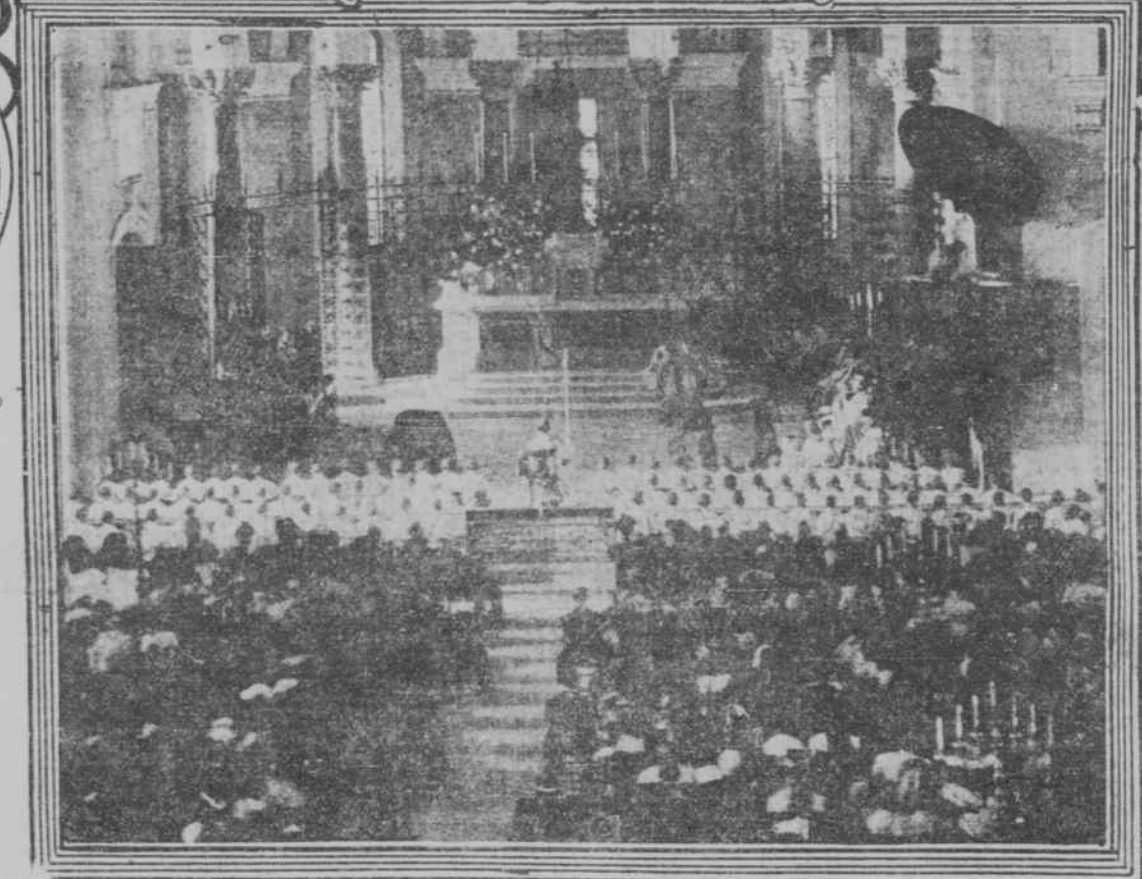
## The Consecration.

While the city slept and darkness still lay over the city, the service began. The quietness of untroubled night prevailed in the vicinity of the cathedral. Street cars had not yet begun to run, and but for an occasional pedestrian or a lone horse-drawn carriage, the city was complete. Proceeded by acolytes and priests, and where bearing lanterns, the papal delegate, robed in the full insignia of his high office, appeared in the street, and the myriad ritual of consecration began. Several bishops arrived, the purple of their capes adding a touch of color to the black and white of the scene. While walls and altars were blessed, more than three hours passed, and still the throng on the outside, increased. The guard of honor surrounded the church so that none might enter. The sun rose high and strong, and with it came more people. The consecration was over and the pontifical mass about to begin. From every direction the congregation was assembling, and for three-quarters of an hour carriages rolled up and men and women streamed into the church. The doors were closed momentarily and then opened to admit the prelates. Within a few minutes the sanctuary was filled, the rich colors of the pontifical vestments appearing sharp and distinct against the gray of the walls and the gleaming white of the marble altars. Two more hours passed and the most imposing service ever seen in Virginia had been concluded and the cathedral was emptied again to remain so until midnight. Vespers gathered the entire throng once more and in part the gorgeous picture was redrawn with the brilliance of a myriad lights and flashing candles added. The youngest archbishop in the world presided at a sermon of rare eloquence and force. The delegate pronounced the papal benediction. The last prayers were said and the last hymns of praise chanted. The day was at an end.

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procession passed into the building; the



View of interior of cathedral during Pontifical Mass. This picture was taken from the organ loft, while Archbishop Keane was preaching.

## AN INVOCATION.

"The ministrations of divine truth and divine grace that shall hallow this sanctuary for all the future shall have that above all else for their meaning and their purpose, to draw all men, without distinction, closer to the Heart of Christ, and thereby to draw them in fraternal charity closer to one another. May this twofold divine love be, not only to the people of Richmond, but to the people of the Old Dominion, and the great dome towered high above, fading away into a white mist. Chaste and pure in its simplicity, the altar completed a scene that appealed alike to the artist and the devotee. The strange Celtic music, never before heard here, filled the cathedral with its grand swelling strains.

Within the sanctuary was proceeding a historic service. The rich medieval robes, descended from the ancient faith, were invested with a solemnity and grandeur rarely seen outside a Catholic church. The gorgeous robes of the prelates, the flashing candelabra, the reverent movements of the attending priests and acolytes, the clouds of fragrant incense ascending, above all, to the Catholic, the deep and holy significance of the Sacrifice of the Mass, awakened the soul of the worshiper and bowed his head in reverence. No fewer than a dozen famous prelates were among the twenty-five or thirty persons in the sanctuary—Gibbons, the cardinal and prince of the church, the most noted figure there; aged, and yet still young; learned and wise, and strong, and kindly; the altar boys, gathered at the altar railing, the priests passing into the ambulatory, and the prelates, accompanied by their deacons, entering the sanctuary. Father Nolan was in charge, and was complete master of the situation.

Wondrous Scene.

The pontifical mass began, and for two hours continued. During this period the scene within the church was one of unsurpassed brilliance and impressiveness. For the first time Richmond people worshipped in a great cathedral of their own, and the influence of the building itself was felt at every hand. The majestic proportions of the interior felt away in graceful lines; the soft Italian renaissance architecture subduing the immen-

sity of the plan. Through the stained glass of the windows the warm sunlight, broken into many lines, flooded the entire place, casting here and there a ruddy gleam across the marble and mosaic, glittering upon the burnished brass and the dull beams in the sanctuary. The great dome towered high above, fading away into a white mist. Chaste and pure in its simplicity, the altar completed a scene that appealed alike to the artist and the devotee. The strange Celtic music, never before heard here, filled the cathedral with its grand swelling strains.

But not least, Van de Vyver, bishop of Richmond, sought by a thousand eyes. In all its long and famous history, the House of Richmond had witnessed before no such assemblage as this, and the man of little faith or none was impressed by the sheer force of the brilliant scene.

## Sermon by Archbishop.

A fitting accompaniment was the sermon by Archbishop Keane, if it were not, indeed, the climax of it all. In beautiful diction and with perfect intonation, the great prelate, still strong and unbent beneath the weight of his years of service, preached the simple words of the Gospel with a fervor and eloquence that reached clearly home to the hearts of his hearers. "Omnia instaurare in Christo," this was his theme, and the discourse that followed was significant not alone for its splendor of eloquence, it was the declaration by a high churchman of the purpose of the Pontificate, as represented by Pius X. to "re-establish all things in Christ," and attempt no more. While he spoke the great audience sat in perfect stillness. Many were there who had heard him in the years gone by and were wont to hang upon his words with the complete faith of those who knew him well; others listened for the first time, and if anything were even more impressed. The archbishop's voice, reaching to the farthest confines of the great hall, and filled the cathedral, apparently without unusual effort upon his part. Clearly and distinctly his words sounded: "For all these mighty problems of humanity, Christ is the only way to right solutions. He is the centre, the meeting of the ways of God and the ways of man." And more clearly and distinctly still, when with arms outstretched he bemoaned the blessing of heaven for the congregation before him:

"In the spirit, therefore, of Pius X., of St. Peter, St. Paul and St. John, we this day consecrate this cathedral of Richmond to Jesus, the Christ, the Son of the Living God. And as a symbol of the spirit in which He accepts it, and in which His holy religion shall here be administered. He points to His Sacred Heart. Remark, not to His brain, as it might dogmatically thinking were here to be His chief sanctifier; nor to His strong right hand, as if loyal subordination to His authority were chiefly to be demanded; but to His heart, to show that devoted love, love of Himself and of His Father, and of all that is loved by Him and by His Father, is the tribute which He asks of all who shall enter here."

"The ministrations of divine truth and divine grace that shall hallow this sanctuary for all the future shall have that above all else for their meaning and their purpose, to draw all men without distinction, closer to the Heart of Christ, and thereby to draw them in fraternal charity closer to one another. May this twofold divine love be, not only to the people of Richmond, but to the people of the Old Dominion, and the great dome towered high above, fading away into a white mist. Chaste and pure in its simplicity, the altar completed a scene that appealed alike to the artist and the devotee. The strange Celtic music, never before heard here, filled the cathedral with its grand swelling strains.

## MGR. FALCONIO, APOSTOLIC DELEGATE.

born bless and thank God for the day when their cathedral was consecrated to the Heart of Jesus.

Shortly before 1 o'clock the pontifical mass came to an end. To the strains of the great organ the dignitaries passed out of the building, followed soon thereafter by the people. The crowd soon dispersed, and the church was empty and silent until midnight. The afternoon was spent in the entertainment of the prelates.

Vespers.

Vespers called the assemblage together again. Three thousand people sat or stood in the cathedral. Three thousand others struggled vainly to secure admittance. A blaze with a myriad lights, the immense church presented a wondrous scene, if anything more striking than that of the morning. The entire gathering of dignitaries was present in the sanctuary, the cardinal entering a little later than the others. The count of the evening was the magnificent sermon by Archbishop Glennon, of St. Louis, a masterpiece of diction. The Apostolic Delegate imparted the papal blessing at this service. The singing was unusually fine.

CARDINAL WILL  
PREACH SUNDAY.

His Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons, has honored the Faith and People of the diocese of Richmond by consenting to read the Mass on Sunday in the new cathedral at 7 o'clock. The Cardinal is greatly beloved here, and an immense audience will certainly be present to hear him speak. This morning His Eminence will say Mass in the new cathedral at 7 o'clock. The Cardinal is greatly beloved here, and an immense audience will certainly be present to hear him speak. This morning His Eminence will say Mass in the new cathedral at 7 o'clock.

## Notes on Consecration.

Cardinal Gibbons will hold a reception at the episcopal residence this afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock.

Dean Driscoll, of Canton, N. Y., is the guest of the Misses Higgins at No. 29 South Street, who also entertained Archbishop Ireland.

Bishop Van de Vyver was the host at luncheon yesterday at Murray Hotel, at the residence of the Archbishop. The affair was purely informal.

Mr. L. F. Sullivan, chairman of the guard of honor, is responsible in no small degree for the excellent order which prevailed at all the services, and for the smoothness with which the secular part of the program was conducted.

Bishop Van de Vyver took occasion last night to thank Mr. Sullivan warmly and to say to him that the "glorious day" was greatly due to his zeal and energy.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Atkinson received informally yesterday afternoon in honor of Archbishop Keane, their guest. A large number of people took this occasion to pay their respects to the distinguished prelate, who was once the beloved Bishop of the Sea of Richmond.

Father O'Reilly, rector of the cathedral, while taking no part in the ceremonies of the consecration, spent a busy day yesterday conferring with Father Massie, the numerous visitors who called at the diocesan house.

Father O'Reilly is greatly beloved by his people, who are proud of the great honor that has been done him in making him rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral.

SERVICE  
IN EARLY  
MORNING

Consecration of Cathedral of Sacred Heart by Papal Delegate.

SCENE WAS GRAND  
AND IMPRESSIVE

Stars Were Still Bright in Sky When Ceremonies Began.

Sacred Heart Cathedral was consecrated yesterday morning by His Excellency Monsignor Falconio, Archbishop of Larian and Papal Delegate of His Holiness Pope Pius X. The solemn services were commenced promptly at 6 o'clock, while the stars were still bright in the sky, and daylight was almost a full hour away.

Monsignor Falconio, in the rich robes of his high rank, with crozier in hand and mitre upon his head, entered the cathedral promptly upon the hour, with his retinue, consisting of Rev. Edward M. Tuerney, of Falls Church, deacon; Rev. A. J. Van Ingelgem, subdeacon; Rev. T. J. Wilson, Rev. W. W. Fallon, Rev. John Massie, Rev. Narcisse Denis and Dr. Massie, lecturers; Rev. James F. Nolan, of Corpus Christi Church, Baltimore, master of ceremonies; Rev. Albert Goetz, assistant master of ceremonies, and a half hundred of sanctuary boys. The cathedral was brilliantly lighted, and the stained glass windows shone with brilliant color, in contrast to the surrounding darkness, adding to the solemnity of the occasion. Without the church men, women and children gathered from all quarters, and quietly stood in groups, awaiting the ceremonies that were to take place without the sacred edifice. Around the entire Cathedral Square, which includes the episcopal residence and the diocesan house, a guard of honor was stationed, commanded by Mr. L. F. Sullivan. Not a sound broke the stillness of the night; not even a whisper disturbed the religious character of the scene, as the assembly reverently awaited the coming of His Excellency.

## Gorgeous Pictures.

It was half-past 6 when the first procession filed out of the sanctuary and having approached the main entrance, retraced its steps into the cathedral. The picture was gorgeous.

First came the guard of honor, composed of representatives of the various orders, carrying lanterns; next came the altar boys in red and black, purple and white, preceded by a cross-bearer and two torch-bearers, then followed the reverend deacons going before the papal delegate, who was escorted by his retinue.

A second time the consecrating party filed out of the sanctuary, and having circumvented the cathedral three times, blessing the outer walls and sprinkling them with holy water, again retreated into the church, where the inner walls were blessed and the ancient ritual of tracing the Greek and Latin alphabet in silver, was performed.

A third and last time the procession left the sanctuary and retraced its steps to the main entrance by way of Grace Avenue, two priests, vested in red, leading the sacred relics to be placed in the niches of the five altars in the cathedral.

## Church Thrown Open.

After solemn prayers and chanting at the main entrance, when Archbishop Falconio had marked the sign of the cross upon the facade, and had knelt loudly upon the steps with his crozier, the portals were thrown open and the procession filed into the sanctuary. The entire throng was then seated for the consecration of the church, which was presided over by His Excellency. The four altars were seated four distinguished bishops, who received the relics, consecrated the altars, and said solemn Mass.

The altar in the Sacred Heart was consecrated by Right Rev. Bishop Northrop, of Charleston, S. C., assisted by the Very Rev. Father John P. O. S. B., master of ceremonies; Rev. W. Gaston Parne, lecturer.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)